

concepts of children from traditionally oppressed groups. Such changes therefore indicated the need for new development paradigm in terms of leadership styles and problem solving behaviour. This initiated another line of investigations that the author reports in *Chapter-V*. The underlying idea in this chapter is to understand leadership behaviour in the context of the national goals of strengthening democratic processes and practices and secular and scientific temper in the country.

Chapter-VI lists the trends in development related work behaviour. On the basis of his researches the author suggested some leads for HRD and other intervention.

Chapter-VII is like knitting the thread. This section of the book deals with the role of the state in promoting social and human development. The author emphasizes the need for reflective thinking in this regard.

The book is useful for those working in the area of developmental administration, organizational behaviour, human resource development etc.

Sunita Singh-Sengupta
IIM Calcutta

Conducting Environmental Impact Assessment for Developing Countries by Prasad Modak and Asit K. Biswas. Oxford University Press, New Delhi, 1999.

Environmental assessment of the developmental projects is needed for a broader reason : ensuring sustainable development and for a narrower reason : satisfaction of eligibility rule of national and international lending agencies and project clearing authorities. In such a situation, it is imperative to know how to prepare and evaluate an environmental assessment report which goes beyond the narrow objective and ensures implementation and monitoring of the projects towards sustainable development. This is true for all the nations

but desperately needed for fast growing developing nations, where, a network of well trained personnel is needed to clear and monitor the variety of developmental projects. An appropriately written text on environmental assessment can help all those engaged in preparation, evaluation, implementation and monitoring of a developmental project. The book, under review, by Modak and Biswas adds considerable value on this issue.

The most important contribution of this book is its detailed and lucid presentation of all essential ingredients of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for any project. The comprehensive treatment of EIA, starting from history through description as a policy management tool, EIA process, methods and tools of analysis and prediction makes it a very useful piece of document. It starts with a right kind of positive note that EIA is a planning tool and not intended to impede economic development. How EIA can help in identification of positive and negative impacts on environment, protection and management of environment and maintenance of the project towards sustainable development, have all been spelt out in the book. The book is rather normative in approach especially through the first three chapters as the authors tell what should be included in an EIA. It is a valuable and detailed demonstration of the linkages between engineering, economics, decision sciences when evaluating a developmental project. What should be the basic design of an EIA process has been discussed with examples of case studies from developing countries. In the absence of any approved well defined method of EIA, the authors have touched upon almost all the methods and tools that have been used in the context of various studies supplemented by their advantages and disadvantages. This makes the book useful for a very large audience with diverse projects in hand. Given the very evolving nature of this subject, Chapter 9 of the book benefits the readers to get to the frontier. Chapter 10, which exclusively compiles excerpts from EIA studies for a wide variety of developmental projects supplemented by concluding remarks and reference list, is a very useful source of information that can be used in the preparation of future EIA reports. It can be a practical guidebook for a very

large audience. The book's primary audience is the group of government and corporate advisers, funding agencies and decision makers, who will implement any project after considering the environmental impact. It can be useful for trainees on the subject. It makes life easier for all categories of readers as they get in one place the necessary information.

Given the ambitious scope, the book has some limitations which may be overcome in subsequent editions. It appears not the authors have assumed that the users of the book are experts in their own fields of specialisation and have taken the liberty to use the technical concepts without actually explaining them. Definition and some elaboration of frequently used technical concepts/terminology could have been included either as a glossary or as footnotes. It needs to be kept in mind that the audience of the book will be coming from varied disciplines. By reading this book, a reader can become familiar with all the technical terms that one needs to know in preparation of an EIA but from the same source cannot know what they are and how they need to be calculated (e.g., shadow price) or implemented. Moreover, a small but comprehensive text explaining differences among EIA (comprehensive) and other tools (self contained-environmental audit, LCA, CBA, ED) of environmental management could have been useful for the users of the book for practical purpose. Secondly, theoretical basis of the methods/tools of EIA have been avoided in the presentation which may make it somewhat less acceptable to a section in academia. Thirdly, readers may be disappointed at the end of the search through the chapters for a real life example which has actually used the methods and tools mentioned in Chapters 4 and 5. To Chapter 10 the authors mention at the beginning of most of the case studies, what methodology can be tried for the case under consideration, but they never work out an example. When it has been mentioned that case of Map Ta Phut Port Project can be used to generate 'impact network diagram' it would have been of immense value for the readers and practitioners to actually see how that can be done. Authors could have played a more productive role at this point. It may be worthwhile to mention

that given the nature of contents of the Chapters 9 and 10, they deserve regular updates to serve the target audience better. One minor point may be taken care of in future editions of the book the abbreviation list at the beginning is useful but rather incomplete.

However, limitations of the book are not a major problem. Environmental economists, scientists, policy advisors, corporate sector and government sector policy makers and consultants should examine this volume in considerable detail.

Joyashree Roy
Department of Economics
Jadavpur University

Environmental Law and Policy in India: Cases, Materials and Statutes by Shyam Divan and Armin Rosencranz, Second Edition, Oxford University Press, New Delhi, 2001. pp. 837, Rs. 395.00

The environmental scenario in India is dominated by several vocal activists who are demanding sustainable development. At the same time, in this country there is an acute gap of professional competence based on local research, that could ably indicate policies towards sustainability. How can sustainable development be achieved and what are the difficulties in that process, thus, constitute important questions. At the ground level, the answer to this question lies to a great extent in the adoption of policies and effective functioning of the regulatory instruments governing development and the environment. The book by Divan and Rosencranz concentrates on these issues in the Indian context and would prove to be an important resource book for the students of law, administrators, industries, environmental activists as well as policy makers in India. The book can be described in three parts. The first part, covering Chapters 1 to 4, presents the broad framework of law within which environment may be seen. The second part, covering Chapters 5 to 13, addresses the specifics of environmental law with reference to India.